

NATIONAL UNIVERSITY OF SINGAPORE  
DEPARTMENT OF ENGLISH LANGUAGE & LITERATURE

STAFF RESEARCH AREAS  
English Language

**Bao Zhiming**, PhD MIT, Dip Fudan  
[ellbaozm@nus.edu.sg](mailto:ellbaozm@nus.edu.sg)

- Theoretical linguistics
- English and Chinese linguistics
- Contact linguistics
- Singapore English

**Chng Huang Hoon**, PhD UT Austin, MA BA (Hons) NUS  
[ellchh@nus.edu.sg](mailto:ellchh@nus.edu.sg)

Active interests:

- Critical discourse analysis
- Gender
- Ideology
- Education

**Edgar W. Schneider** (available only in Semester 2, 2020/2021)  
[Edgar.Schneider@sprachlit.uni-regensburg.de](mailto:Edgar.Schneider@sprachlit.uni-regensburg.de)

- World Englishes, varieties of English
- Sociolinguistics, language variation and change
- Contact linguistics
- Grammar of English, esp. corpus-based investigations
- History and evolution of English

Supervision style:

I'll be happy to discuss ideas about potential HT topics, and to help forging them into a methodologically sound, feasible project. I appreciate creativity and independence on the side of supervisees - I can provide experience-based advice on how to proceed and how to develop a project idea, but in the end obviously this is a student's individual piece of work.

**Erlewine, Michael Yoshitaka**, PhD MIT  
[mitcho@nus.edu.sg](mailto:mitcho@nus.edu.sg)

- Formal syntax/semantics, linguistic theory
- Language specialities: Mandarin Chinese, English, Japanese, Austronesian
- Interest areas: focus, questions, movement, quantification, case/agreement, ellipsis

Please contact me earlier to discuss your proposal, especially if you are interested in fieldwork.

**Hiramoto, Mie**, PhD U of Hawai'i  
[ellmh@nus.edu.sg](mailto:ellmh@nus.edu.sg)

Areas of general interest:

- Contact Linguistics
- Language, Gender, and Sexuality
- Media discourse

Supervision style:

I take my students' projects very seriously, and for this reason, I am very strict, demanding, and unforgiving. I set high expectations from the very beginning of the HT project. Those who are not able to follow my pace will suffer, and naturally, the overall quality of their HT will also suffer.

**Lazar, Michelle M**, PhD Lanc, MA BA (Hons) NUS  
[ellmml@nus.edu.sg](mailto:ellmml@nus.edu.sg)

- Critical & Multimodal Discourse Analysis
- Language, Gender and Sexuality
- Media Discourses (Traditional and Social Media)
- Discourses of Race Relations, Religion, National Campaigns

**Lee, Leslie**, PhD UCSD  
[ellleel@nus.edu.sg](mailto:ellleel@nus.edu.sg)

Supervision interests:

- Syntax
- Morphology
- Lexical semantics
- Variation
- Quantitative/experimental approaches

Supervision style:

- I am happy to discuss ideas and provide feedback, but I expect supervisees to think and work independently.

**Nala Lee**, PhD U of Hawai'i  
[nala.lee@nus.edu.sg](mailto:nala.lee@nus.edu.sg)

Areas of interest:

- Contact languages
- Language endangerment and revitalization
- Typology
- Sociolinguistics
- Sociophonetics
- Baba Malay

Supervision style:

I prefer acting as a sounding board and facilitator, rather than a person who doles out solutions, so supervisees should be clear about what it is they want to achieve. I also prefer supervisees to work on primary fieldwork data or experimental data. Finally, supervisees should not be afraid of harnessing technological tools and methods in their work.

**Ng E-Ching**, PhD Yale  
[eching@nus.edu.sg](mailto:eching@nus.edu.sg)

- Contact linguistics
- Laboratory phonology
- Formal theories of phonology
- Stress, tone and intonation
- Singaporean English

**Ooi Beng Yeow, Vincent**, PhD (Lancaster, UK), MA BA (Hons) NUS  
[vinceooi@nus.edu.sg](mailto:vinceooi@nus.edu.sg)

Research interests:

- Corpus linguistics
- The lexicon in theory and practice
- Language and the Internet
- Asian varieties of English

Supervision style:

Facilitator and discussant

**Park, Joseph Sung-Yul**, PhD University of California, Santa Barbara  
[ellpjs@nus.edu.sg](mailto:ellpjs@nus.edu.sg)

Current active interest:

- Language ideology: beliefs about language structure and use and their consequences for social organization
- Language and globalization: the role language plays in the process of globalization, with a focus on English as a global language
- Linguistic construction of identity: how we use language to create, negotiate, and reproduce the distinction between self and other; how this process serves as a basis for more permanent social relationships and social inequalities

Supervision style:

Students will benefit most from working with me if they are highly independent (able to know what they are interested in, taking the initiative to ask questions, able to set a schedule for research and abide by it, etc.). I tend to see myself as a discussant when interacting with students, thinking through the issue together rather than telling them what to do, and learning together rather than providing answers.

**Rebecca Lurie Starr**, PhD Stanford, BA Harvard  
[ellsrl@nus.edu.sg](mailto:ellsrl@nus.edu.sg)

- Multilingual language acquisition
- Sociolinguistic variation in Mandarin, Cantonese, Japanese, Korean, English
- World Englishes
- Sociophonetics
- Sociolinguistics in media
- Teacher speech
- Experimental sociolinguistics

I'm happy to supervise projects in new areas and languages. Please feel free to get in touch and we can chat about your preliminary HT ideas!

**Shen, Zheng**, PhD University of Connecticut  
[zhengshen@nus.edu.sg](mailto:zhengshen@nus.edu.sg)

Fields: Formal syntax, comparative syntax, experimental syntax and semantics, first language acquisition  
Topics: Agreement, ellipsis, degree expressions

**Talib, Ismail Bin Said**, PhD E.Anglia, MA NUS, BA Sing.  
[ellibst@nus.edu.sg](mailto:ellibst@nus.edu.sg)

Areas of general interest and expertise:

- General research on narrative
- Cinematic discourse
- Stylistics
- Postcolonial theory
- Postcolonial literatures and Singapore literature in English

Areas of current active interest:

- Narratology
- Cinematic discourse
- Singaporean literature in English
- History of postcolonial literatures
- The English language and postcolonial literatures

Style of supervision:

Students who work best with me are those who are flexible in their thinking, and liberal in their view of what can and cannot be done in scholarship. They should be independent researchers who view the supervisor as a guide, and not a person who gives detailed instructions on what to do.

**Tan, Peter K W**, PhD Edin., BA (Hons) Malaya  
[PeterTan@nus.edu.sg](mailto:PeterTan@nus.edu.sg)

1. Pragmatics, discourse and conversation analysis
2. Genre
3. Stylistics and Styling
4. The history of English and Asian Englishes
5. Names (onomastics)

Supervision style:

I am quite open to a range of approaches (qualitative, quantitative, methods based on corpora, questionnaires and experimental data, etc.), but students should be prepared to think through the planning, direction and organisation of their research. I see my role as a discussant and as someone who can provide feedback on students' writing.

**Wee Hock Ann, Lionel**, PhD UC Berkeley, MA BA (Hons) NUS  
[ellweeha@nus.edu.sg](mailto:ellweeha@nus.edu.sg)

- Discourse-pragmatic perspectives on metaphor and metonymy
- Language and cityscapes
- New Varieties of English
- Language policy and language planning